



# EAA Chapter 430

Serving Northern Olympic Peninsula

## January 2026 - Newsletter



### From the Left Seat with President Ray Ballantyne

Happy New Year 2026! Lisa and I got to ring in the New Year on the high seas in the Florida Keys on our son's 40 ft sailboat. It was my first experience with open ocean sailing, and I see the similarities between sailing and flying. It takes a lot of training, preparation, and execution to travel cross-country in either air or water. Our arrival at night to the mooring ball in Marathon was similar to an ILS to minimums. You have to navigate accurately and know how to handle your vehicle. Our Captain Dan nailed it!

It won't be long before it will be time to start the flying season! We can whet our appetite for summer adventures at the Northwest Aviation Conference and Trade Show on February 21, then join the monthly flyout lunches that Barry puts on. We sponsor "Flying Start" on May 16 as an introduction to aviation for the person who always wanted to learn to fly but either had no time or money (or both). If you have a friend that always says they wanted to learn to fly, here's your answer. Let me know if you would like to be a part of this effort. And we always need Pilots to provide the Eagle flights to each participant.

Which brings up our Young Eagles plan to provide a flight in a light aircraft to local youth. We are planning to have three rallies this year on June 6, July 11, and August 15. I just learned that EAA HQ will credit our chapter \$25 for each new YE Pilot. If you're interested in knowing more about being a YE pilot, get ahold of Bud Davies or any board member.

I'm looking forward to the fly ins, and overnight camping trips this summer. I hope to attend AirVenture 2026, and several group camping events. There will also be day events at local airports and maybe some special EAA430 flyout events!

Until then, check the purity of the fuel, warm the engine if it needs it, and keep flying to avoid rust (and I'm not talking about the engine).

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Chapter Member Dava McNutt making flying look effortless, somewhere over Sequim on January 1, 2025

### *Upcoming Events*

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**Jan 23 - 9:00am**

Mariner Cafe

**Membership Gathering**

**Jan 31 - 10:00 am**

Wm. R. Fairchild Intl. Airport  
Terminal Conference Room  
(Lunch)

**VMC/IMC Club**

**Jan 14 - 7:00pm**

Mariner Cafe

## Feet Wet

It's nice to be starting off the new year feeling grateful and fortunate to be your newest newsletter editor. Following in the footsteps of Linda Priddle, Elisa Petersen and Skip Brown, it's humbling to be faced with the challenge of coming anywhere close the level of wonderfulness that's been delivered to our inboxes every month, for the last bunch of years. I'll do my best. Thanks for the chance to give it a go.

- Richard

## New Board of Directors for 2026 - 2027

Our chapter bylaws require us to hold elections every two years to choose leaders for four important positions – President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. These positions are considered to be the Class I directors - *officers*.

There are several other board positions – also important – but these Class II directors are appointed by the chapter president, typically with the consideration of any guidance offered by the general membership.

The makeup of our board did see several changes that were confirmed during our November membership gathering.

As it happens, each of our Class I officer positions had only one nominee/candidate. That's a special case that allows a simplified confirmation to a showing of hands from the members in attendance, rather than more formal balloting and vote counting.

Our Class I officers and the slate of nominees for Class II positions were all confirmed for the 2026 – 2027 term.

- President – *Ray Ballantyne* (continuing)
- Vice President – *Ernie Hansen* (taking over from Rick Vaux)
- Treasurer – *Tracy Halsted* (continuing)
- Secretary – *Rob Stephens* (taking over from Richard Howell)
- Young Eagles – *Bud Davies* (continuing, with assistance from *Tracy Halsted*)
- Scholarship – *Linda Priddle* (taking over from Dave Miller)
- Hospitality – *Kevin and Charlene Tracy* (continuing)
- VMC/IMC Club – *Harry Cook* (continuing)
- Fly-Outs – *Barry Halsted* (continuing)
- Programs - (*open position*)
- Newsletter – *Richard Howell* (taking over from Linda Priddle)
- Communications – *Erik Petersen* (continuing)
- Web Editor – *Richard Howell* (taking over from Andy Sallee)

Even though we have our board of directors in place for the coming term, there are always opportunities for volunteers. If you'd like to be involved – please let any board member know. Chapter members are always welcome at monthly board meetings. We have a great time working together and you'd enjoy it too.

## Highlights - 2025 Chapter Activities

As a newly minted newsletter editor, it seems like it would be a missed opportunity to not take advantage of the low-hanging editorial fruit offered by reflecting on the past year, at the beginning of this new year. So how about a look at some of the fun our chapter had with airplanes in 2025?



Boy did we do some flyouts to fun places in 2025!





2025 had gatherings with fellowship and good eats...

Fundraisers for scholarships

- Chili Bingo Night
- Poker Run
- Swap Meet



We flew Young Eagles and held a Build and Fly event





We helped one another



In 2025 EAA Chapter 430 members shared the wonder of aviation



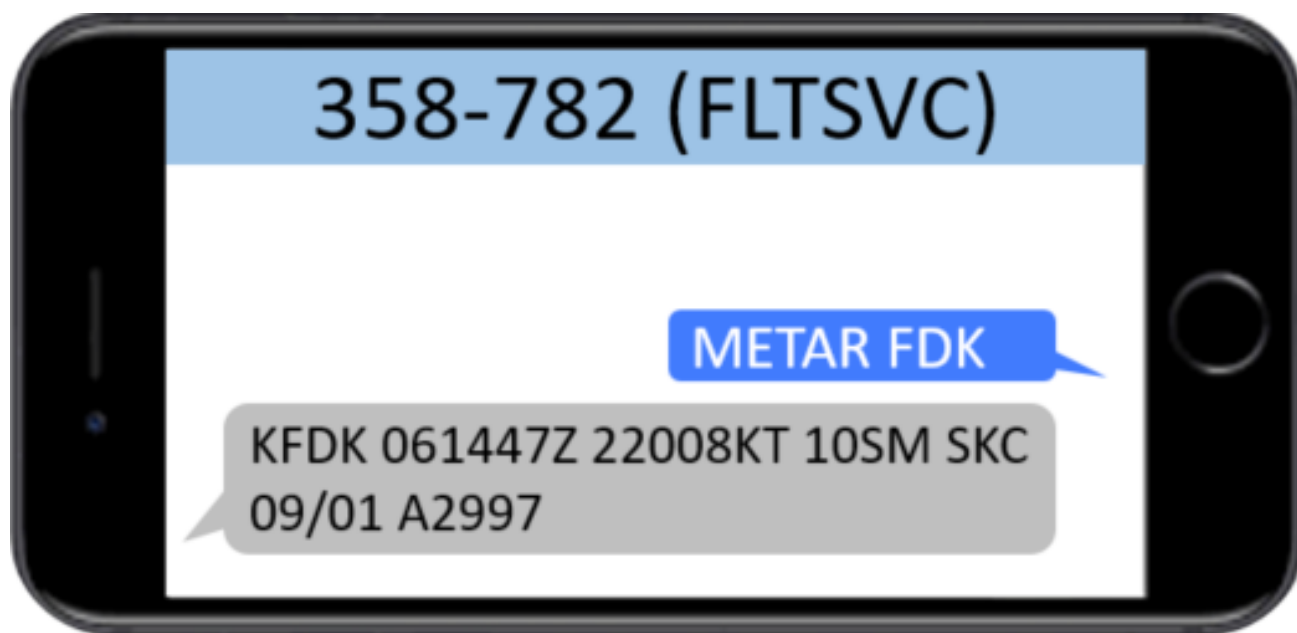
## Text Message Airport Weather Service - Who Knew?

Our government sponsored FlightService (Leidos) has a product that provides weather conditions via SMS text message for just about any airport that reports weather.

There's nothing to sign up for. Just send a text and get the weather – simple as that.

You can for example text – METAR KCLM to 358-782 (FLTSVC) to quickly receive a reply with the current weather. You can also get a terminal forecast with TAF KCLM or get both reports with MT KCLM. You can even get plain text reply with METAR KCLM PT.

More info: <https://www.1800wxbrief.com/Website/#!/sms-text-message-service>



## 2025 Christmas Holiday Party and Member Recognition

Take a moment to have a peek at the EAA 430 website for a few pictures of the festivities. While you're there please look around to see what else is new. We'll be working to bring fresh, interesting content to the pages. Visit: <https://eaa430.org/>

## Richard Humphreys

Although not technically a chapter member, Richard Humphreys was a dear friend to a number of our members. We take a moment here to reflect on Richard's passing and remember him. He will be missed. Richard was truly a fascinating man and notably the driving force of the wind tetrahedron rebuilding project that EAA Chapter 430 undertook recently at Sequim Valley Airport. It's pleasing to know that for his friends in the chapter, we'll surely have a fine thought about him whenever we check the wind at W28.



Richard Humphreys at his Rakes Glen home with his Taperwing Waco (2025)